



THE AMERICAN LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

APRIL - JUNE 2008

From the Publisher

Dear Friend:

Greetings from the American Library!

I would like to personally thank each one of you who made our "60 Years of Service" celebrations so successful. As you know, the Library has organized a number of programs over the past few months. The culmination of these events was the American Library Open House on April 25. The Open House was a grand success and it was a great pleasure for me to personally greet so many of our patrons. With the milestone of 60 years of service in South India behind us, we look forward to many more years of useful service. As part of this issue we have included some of the many comments we received from our patrons during our "60 Years of Service" celebrations.

Looking beyond our recent celebrations, the heat is on for the 2008 Olympics. Every Olympian has a story that echoes the shared human struggle for excellence and our devotion to pursue purpose in life. The April 2008 issue of the eJournal published by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Information Programs, celebrates the Olympics through the individual experiences and insights of athletes who share their memories of the Olympic Experience. In this issue of our Newsletter, we have reproduced an article from this issue titled *Olympic Sports Administration in the United States*. The full eJournal is available online at <http://www.america.gov/publications/ejournalusa.html#0408>, for those who would like to read more.

I look forward to seeing you in the Library!

Wesley Robertson
Information Officer

Olympic Sports Administration in the United States **Citizens and corporations provide most funding for** **U.S. athletes by Bridget Hunter**

The United States differs from most other nations sending teams to the Olympic Games in the way athletes and their sports are organized and supported.

Bridget Hunter is a former officer of USADiving, the national governing body for competitive diving in the United States. She is currently an editor in the State

Department's Bureau of International Information Programs.

U.S. participation in the Olympic Games, although framed and authorized by federal law, relies on private enterprise, personal philanthropy, and ultimately the energy and talents of thousands of volunteers to make Olympic dreams a reality for American athletes and coaches.

The United States Olympic Committee (USOC), headquartered in Colorado, is the coordinating body for Olympic-related athletic activity in the United States. It seeks to "assist in finding opportunities for every American to participate in sport, regardless of gender, race, age, geography, or physical ability," according to the organization's Web site.

The USOC is unusual within the international sports community in that it is funded by contributions from private citizens and by major support from the corporate community. The USOC, unlike the vast majority of the 198 national Olympic committees, receives no ongoing government subsidy. In addition to income generated through donations, sponsorships, and licensing fees, the USOC sells USOC-licensed apparel and other items through catalogs and an online store.

Funding also is provided by the U.S. Olympic Foundation, a nonprofit entity that was established after the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles to benefit Olympic and amateur sports in the United States. The original capital investment -- approximately \$115 million -- was raised through the sale of commemorative Olympic coins by the U.S. government and surplus funds from the operating budget of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games.

The foundation aims to reinvest up to 50 percent of its investment income and distribute the other 50 percent in grants to the USOC's member organizations to further develop sports in the United States.

Federally Authorized, Privately Supported

The Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, a federal law enacted in 1978 and named for a longtime U.S. Senator from Alaska, chartered the USOC and set specific requirements for its member national governing bodies for individual sports. According to the law, the USOC's purpose is "to promote and support amateur athletic activities involving the United States and foreign nations." The act was amended in 1998 to expand the USOC's role to include the Paralympic Games, and increase athlete representation.

Legally, the USOC is a monopoly. The Stevens Act directs the USOC to “exercise exclusive jurisdiction” over all matters pertaining to U.S. participation in the Olympic Games, the Paralympic Games, and the Pan-American Games, and it is recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) as the national Olympic committee for the United States.

The IOC recognizes sports nationalities rather than political nationalities, guided by decisions from the Court of Arbitration for Sport, an international judicial panel which has sports disputes as its sole jurisdiction. The CAS has ruled that sports nationality refers to an athlete’s eligibility for international competition as a representative of one nation or another. That, the CAS has determined, is a different status than the individual’s legal citizenship.

The concept of sports nationalities allows independent territories, commonwealths, protectorates, and certain geographical areas to have discrete identities for international athletic competition. For instance, Puerto Rico, a U.S. territory, sends its own team to international competitions. Each national Olympic committee governs Olympic affairs within its jurisdiction, including identifying, training, selecting, entering, and funding an Olympic team in its trip to the Games.

Many of the USOC’s responsibilities for Olympic athlete selection and training are performed by its more than 70 national governing bodies (NGBs) for individual sports. The NGBs, in addition to their Olympic responsibilities, carry out a range of activities to promote their sports by broadening participation, expanding public support, encouraging construction of competitive-quality facilities, and setting standards for competition. Typically, U.S. NGBs operate with very small paid staffs and rely on volunteers -- board and committee members as well as officials at all levels of competition -- to do much of the work involved in sports administration.

Each NGB coordinates its activities not only with the USOC but with the international sports federation that governs international competition in a particular sport or sports. For instance, USA Swimming, which sets rules for competitive swimming events of all types for all ages of competitors in the United States, is responsible for ensuring U.S.-hosted international events are conducted in compliance with standards set by FINA, the international federation for aquatic sports.

Each U.S. NGB funds its operations through various sources, such as membership dues; sanctioning fees for competitions; sales of sportswear, accessories, equipment, and promotional items; and charitable donations.

For many NGBs, significant financial support comes from their alumni -- former competitors who are seeking to give back to a sport that enriched them in ways that cannot be measured in trophies or medals.

[Source: http://www.america.gov/publications/ejournalusa.html#0408](http://www.america.gov/publications/ejournalusa.html#0408)

Members respond to Library’s 60 years of service

“Thank you very much for sending me an invitation. Hearty congratulations on the occasion of 60 years of service celebrations. Excellent service support from your team for any book anytime even for outsiders like me from Hyderabad.” *Mr. Chakradhara Reddy, Clinical Research Coordinator, Hyderabad.*

“Thanks for a lovely library evening function last Friday. Your hard work & dedication has brought this library to its present efficient state. May your good efforts continue to make this library even better than it is today.” *M. Alagappan, Chief Manager, Larsen & Toubro Ltd, Chennai*

“Many thanks for the kind invite to visit your library. It is a great institution serving intellectuals and Academia for 60 long years. I have always been a beneficiary. This time, I may have to miss the opportunity of visiting the open house planned as I will be away. I will come one of these days,” *Dr.A. Gnanam, Former Vice Chancellor, University of Madras and Pondicherry University*

“I am exceedingly pleased to receive your invitation for me to attend the Open House to celebrate 60 years of American Library Service in South India. I have enjoyed its wonderful service for more than three decades. I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to you and all your associates for the valuable support and assistance rendered to me and to all users of the library. I pray that the library will continue to serve this region indefinitely into the future.” *Mr. S. Neelakantan, Former Director, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai.*

“Thank you for the kind invite for the 60 years of Service in South India of The American Library in Chennai. I have immensely benefited as a student and later as an academic of the invaluable and immense resources of the American Library. On this occasion, I would like to place on record my sincere and profound appreciation and grateful thanks to all the staff of the American Library past and present (since 1981 I have been using the Library) for all their timely, prompt, proactive, professional and most efficient response to all my queries and that of my students and colleagues. This indeed has been a wonderful and highly esteemed service that has no parallels in India. The American Library is the model-library that university libraries in this country should reverentially emulate.”

Dr. Lawrence Prabhaker, Associate Professor of Political Science, Madras Christian College, Chennai.

“Congrats on the occasion of American Library touching 60th year. I wish all the best.” - *Ishwar Daitota, Editor, Times of India, Bangalore.*

“I have been coming to the American Library quite frequently and I have been impressed by the helpfulness and congeniality. I have received instantaneous help and guidance. I have already spoken to many people in schools and colleges that I visit to become members of the American

Library. Keep up the good work! Thanks for all your assistance without which I would not have been able to prepare for my presentations and publications. I will always cherish my visits to the American Library.” *Ms. Sheila Saravanan, Fulbright Scholar, Chennai.*

“I had an opportunity to visit the Library. I am very happy to be a reader of books on the subject of human rights in the world.” *Mr. P. Selvaraj, Advocate, Chennai.*

“I am really thankful to the American Library for all the arrangements in connection with the 60 years celebration and showing the film *Mighty Heart* which is quite absorbing. I must thank all the staff, Director and Information Officer for showing lot of information on U.S. Elections.” *Mr. V. Srinivas, Social Worker, Chennai.*

“A most amazing excellent Library.” *Dr. T.S.N. Sastry, Dean (Academic & Planning), Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Chennai.*

“I was a member way back in the 70s(!) while I was doing my Masters in English literature in Coimbatore. American literature was offered for the first time and this library was real god send. Books were mailed to me in Coimbatore. I now live in Chennai after almost 20 years abroad and still visit the library regularly. Congratulations.” *Ms. Philomina Thomas, Teacher, Sishya Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Chennai.*

Book Corner

Cohen, Daniel J. **Digital history: a guide to gathering, preserving, and presenting the past on the Web**, by Daniel J. Cohen and Roy Rosenzweig. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2006. (004.678 COH)



The authors, both connected with the Center for History and New Media (George Mason Univ.) and creators of highly acclaimed Web sites (e.g., *The September 11 Digital Archive* <http://911digitalarchive.org/>), have written the definitive introductory guide for professional and amateur historians wishing to understand and use the Web. Chapters that flow seamlessly together present the nuts and bolts of Web site creation: digitization of text and pictures, building of an audience, and use of the Internet as an interactive tool for collecting historical material. The explication of technique, moreover, never overshadows the more theoretical discussions that remind historians of their professional responsibilities in recording and preserving the past. The chapter on copyright laws and intellectual property has clarity and thoroughness. An accompanying Web site (<http://chnm.gmu.edu/digitalhistory/authors.php>) contains the complete text, whose notes link directly to the over 600 mentioned Web sites.

Keates, Nancy. **The Wall Street Journal Guide to the Business of Life**, by Nancy Keates. New York, Random House, 2005. (REF 650.1 Kea)

A senior editor for *Weekend Journal*, Keates has pulled together her colleagues' best advice in this easy-to-read compendium of consumer advice. This is both an instructional manual for living life to the fullest and fun read about what really matters in the day-to-day. It has the basic insight and information you need to navigate through life. The book offers inside tips -- and reporters' trades secrets -- on health and fitness; cars and travel; fashion and food; gadgets and education; and entertainment and shopping. A very useful guide for those who wish to travel or plan to live in the United States.

Dates to Remember

May 26	Memorial Day
May 31	Walt Whitman: Birth Anniversary
June 5	World Environment Day

New at the American Library

Books

Fox, Scott C. **Internet Riches: The Simple Money-Making Secrets of Online Millionaires** / Scott Fox. New York, NY: AMACOM, American Management Association, c2006. (658.872 FOX)

Jones, Danell. **Virginia Woolf Writers' Workshop: Seven Lessons to Inspire Great Writing** / Danell Jones. New York, NY: Bantam Books, c2007. (808.042 WOO)

Porras, Jerry I. **Success Built to Last: Creating a Life That Matters** / Jerry Porras. New York, NY: Penguin, 2007. (650.1 POR)

Stiglitz, Joseph E. **Making Globalization Work** / Joseph E. NY: W.W. Norton & Company, 2007 (337 STI)

Articles

ART OF INFLUENCE

By Michael Duncan. *Art in America*, V. 95, No. 5, May 2007, pp. 172-177

BIG MELT MEETS BIG EMPTY: RETHINKING THE IMPLICATIONS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND PEAK OIL

By Richard Heinberg. *MuseLetter*, No. 187, November 2007. <http://www.richardheinberg.com/museletter/187>

GLOBAL WARMING LOSERS.

By William R Cline. *International Economy*, V. 21, No. 4, Fall 2007, pp. 62-65

GOD AND SOCIAL CHANGE

By Julius Lester. CrossCurrents, V. 56, No. 3, Fall 2006, pp. 303-311

MELINDA GATES GOES PUBLIC

By Patricia Sellers, Fortune, V.157, No. 1, January 21, 2008, p. 44-56

WILL THE REAL MARTIN LUTHER KING PLEASE STAND UP

By Jeff Nall. The Humanist, V.65, No. 3, May/June 2005, pp. 4-5

DVDs

SHAPING THE WAY WE TEACH ENGLISH: SUCCESSFUL PRACTICES AROUND THE WORLD 2006

"Shaping" consists of 14 modules that focus on such topics as learning strategies, integrating skills, managing large classes, critical thinking, assessment, and teaching young learners. The extensive Instructor's Manual guides the teacher trainer in presenting the video, and encourages viewers to adapt the materials to their local context.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND HUMAN IMPACT 2006, 22 Minutes

Air and water pollution, the effects of pollution on health and the environment, deforestation and loss of wetlands, ozone depletion and global warming, and the negative impact of agriculture, construction, and recreation/tourism are discussed. The program ends with anti-pollution initiatives like recycling and greater energy efficiency. The key message? Individuals can make a difference!

EMILY DICKINSON (Six Poets: searching for rhyme and reason Series) 2006, 20 Minutes

While many of her literary peers achieved notoriety, "the woman in white" remained virtually unknown—by choice. The self-imposed obscurity of Emily Dickinson is just one of many aspects of her life that this program explores. Blending daguerreotypes, paintings, manuscripts, excerpts from Dickinson's letters, and readings from nearly a dozen of her poems, this program presents the biography of one of America's most unique and influential voices in poetry.

Quotes

"A library book...is not, then, an article of mere consumption but fairly of capital, and often in the case of professional men, setting out in life, is their only capital." -*Thomas Jefferson*

"Read the best books first or you may not have a chance to read them at all." - *Henry David Thoreau*

60 Years of Service Celebrations - Events



Discussion on Greening of U.S. Corporations



Consul General David T. Hopper addressing at the Open House



Open House at the American Library's "60 years of service in South India" celebrations



Old and New American Library members sharing their nostalgic moments during a high-tea hosted to mark the sixty years of service in south India on August 25, 2008